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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: ALEXANDER DYCK *ET AL.*)
)
 SERIAL NO. TO BE ASSIGNED) ART UNIT: TO BE ASSIGNED
)
 FILED: HEREWITH) EXAMINER: TO BE ASSIGNED
)
 FOR: SULFONATED AROMATIC POLYMERS,)
 MEMBRANE CONTAINING SAID)
 POLYMERS AND A METHOD FOR THE)
 PRODUCTION AND USE OF THE SAME)
)

Asst. Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to fee calculation and examination please amend the above-identified application as follows.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 3-18.

Please add the following new claims.

-- 19. The sulfonated aromatic polymer as claimed in claim 1, wherein X is -CO-.

20. The sulfonated aromatic polymer as claimed in claim 1, wherein Ar¹ and Ar² are, independently of one another, phenylene, naphthylene or biphenylene.

21. The sulfonated aromatic polymer as claimed in claim 1, which further comprises the